

Message Text

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46

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 AID-05 CIAE-00 FRB-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA, SY

SUBJECT: VISIT OF FAHIM YUSIF: AMERICAN-ARAB ASSOCIATION

REF: DAMASCUS 4595

1. MESSAGE PARA ONE REFTEL PASSED TO YUSIF AS REQUESTED.
YUSIF APPRECIATES YOUR ASSISTANCE AND WILL CONTACT EMBASSY
UPON ARRIVAL.

2. YUSIF IS COMING TO DAMASCUS AS PART OF TRIP TO SYRIA,
THE GULF STATES, EGYPT, SAUDI ARABIA TO INTRODUCE THE
AMERICAN-ARAB ASSOCIATION TO ARAB POLICYMAKERS AND TO IN-
VITE THEM, WHEN IN THE U.S., TO CONTACT THE ASSOCIATION FOR
ANY ASSISTANCE THEY MAY NEED IN DEALING WITH THE U.S. BUSI-
NESS COMMUNITY. YUSIF ALSO PLANS TO STOP BY THE ARAB
BOYCOTT OFFICE IN DAMASCUS FOR INFORMATION ON CURRENT
PRACTICES.

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3. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION FURNISHED BY YUSIF, THE AMERICAN-ARAB ASSOCIATION FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY IS A 25-YEAR OLD CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION WHOSE MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES ABOUT 175 U.S. COMPANIES AND A LESSER NUMBER OF ARAB COMPANIES WITH OFFICES IN THE U.S., AMONG THEM SOME OF THE

ARAB AIRLINES. THE ASSOCIATION'S AIM IS TO PROMOTE ARAB-U.S. ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION; AS PART OF THIS EFFORT, THEY PUBLISH A MONTHLY ECONOMIC BULLETIN AND HOLD BRIEFINGS FOR ARAB BUSINESSMEN VISITING THE U.S. AND "OFF-THE-RECORD" BRIEFINGS FOR U.S. BUSINESSMEN INTERESTED IN THE ARAB MARKETS. ADDRESS: 342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: (FORMER AMBASSADOR) ROBERT G. BARNES. (PREVIOUS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: JAMEL SA'D) DEPT CONTACTS WITH ASSOCIATION HAVE BEEN GENERALLY FAVORABLE. KISSINGER

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